(b) whether in response to a large number of MP's references received in September, 2002, no satisfactory reply has been furnished except for an acknowledgment; and

(c) whether Government propose to take action against the said officer as per Government of India instruction No. (17-A) reproduced below Rule 3-C of the CCS (Conduct) Rules 1964 for his failure to furnish timely replies to such MP's references?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Arrest in connection with adulterated water

1437. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of companies involved in bottling pesticides containing adulterated water have been unearthed recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the DeThi Police had made any arrests in this connection;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Delhi Police propose to take against the owners of the companies who are manufacturing and marketing pesticides containing bottled water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) No, Sir. The standards prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water were incorporated in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 in the year 2000. According to these standards, pesticide residues should be "below detectable limits" when tested in accordance with the specific methods as prescribed by BIS in their inspection and testing scheme. The samples of Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water analyzed as per BIS standards were found to comply with the requirements.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.